

A NEW PRAIRIE SPIDER

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Many years of careful collecting in the prairie regions of the State of Ohio have yielded several new species of spiders. Among them is the following:

Souessa nasuta n. sp.

Male.—Length 1.8 mm. The thorax is dull yellow suffused with sooty black. The legs and basal segments of the palps are light yellow. The projecting clypeus is light yellow above and below. The sternum is dull yellow heavily covered with sooty black. The abdomen is light yellow dusted with sooty black giving the appearance of being dull green. The sooty covering is speckled with tiny pin points of yellow and crossed by many bright rays of yellow which for the most part are directed laterally or posteriorly. Starting between the second pair of muscle impressions is a narrow sooty line which runs backward becoming narrower. The venter of the abdomen is dull green with two light boundary streaks which bow outward. The spiracle is marked by a long light colored procurved line which is expanded at the ends.

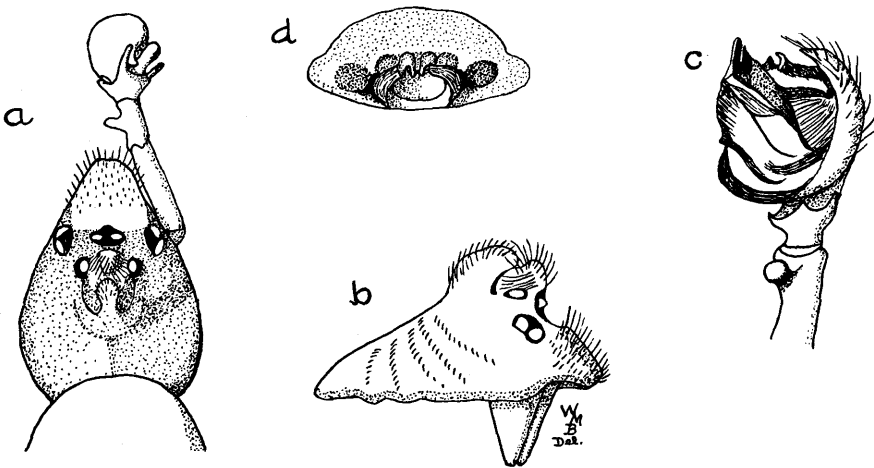


FIG. 1. *Souessa nasuta* Barrows. a. Dorsal view of male. b. Side view of male cephalothorax. c. Palpal organ of male. d. Epigynum of female.

The palpal organ is much like that of *Souessa spinifera* Camb.¹ except that the two terminal teeth are twisted around each other. The patella of the palp carries on its distal end a spur which projects downward and inward (Fig. 1, a and c).

Fig. 1, b shows a lateral view of the male cephalothorax.

Female.—Length 1.9 mm. The colors and markings are the same as the male in every detail. The head is normal except that the clypeus is high, broadly rounded in front, and flares forward and outward.

The epigynum is shown in Fig. 1, d.

Two males in prairie northwest of West Jefferson, Ohio. Sept. 23, 1923.

Five females from the same place Oct. 19, 1924.

¹Crosby and Bishop, Festschrift für Embrik Strand. Riga, 1936-37, II, p. 57.